



**The Point:**

Live as God's people because of God's gift

**The Outline:**

Live as God's people

- Live as citizens

- Standing Firm together

- Striving for the gospel (faith in and advance of)

Because of God's Gift

- Meaning of 'Worthy'

- Salvation is from God

- Opened hearts to the gospel

- Continued Faith in the the gospel

- Suffering is from God

**RELATE:**

-If you could pass on to your son or daughter one practical skill that you've acquired over the years (i.e. baking a pie; rebuilding a 350 small block; speaking another language; making a birdie putt; etc.) what would it be and why?

-What single life lesson did you learn from your mother, father, or grandparent that has impacted your life in a positive way?

**REFLECT:**

-If you were telling a friend about the sermon this week, how could you sum up the point of this passage in one sentence?

-What is the one word of command to the people of God in this passage?

-In the sermon, a difference was drawn between a mere 'manner of life' and 'citizenship'. Why is this distinction important, and how could it affect a Christian church?



-Paul is concerned about the church's standing firm in one spirit, and striving for the faith of the gospel (v27). What does this imply about the types of things which were threatening them?

-Do you think these types of issues are still threatening the church today? How so?

-How would you explain a Christian life that is 'worthy of the gospel' to a child? What does it look like?

-Respond to this statement which was made in the sermon this week:

What you are called to do and to be as a Christian, is always founded upon who He is, what He has done, is doing or will do.

-How could a person misunderstand the command to live a life 'worthy of the gospel' in such a way that would lead them away from Christ?

-In what ways is salvation God's gift?

-How is faith presented in this passage a gift from God? How could this truth change your thinking about the Christian life?



-Does it surprise you that Paul calls suffering a gift? How could he say this?

-Read Acts 14:22; 2 Timothy 3:12; and John 16:33. Jot down any thoughts that you have as you read through them.

-Now read Romans 5:3-5; James 1:2-4 and Romans 8:35-39

-Give a one sentence perspective on suffering from what you've seen in these scriptures and the passage we're studying:

## RESPOND:

- Pray that God would give us continued strength to live our lives in a way that is worthy of the gospel.
- Pray that we would live in one Spirit and mind as a church.
- Ask that God would reveal to us all of the ways that we're to strive for the gospel in Spokane and around the world.
- Pray for God to comfort us with the gospel in suffering, and thank Him for His work in us through suffering.

Local Focus: This week we are praying for Faith Bible Church and their pastor Dan Jarms. FBC is working through a series on managing God's money. Pray that each person in the congregation would handle the resources God has given them in a way that makes an impact in eternity. Pray that they become one heart and mind in their homes and in their church.